

TEHAMA COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES OF

JUNE 24, 2003

Present: Directors': Bill Borrer, Barbara McIver, George Russell, Ross Turner. Absent: Charles Willard. Also present: Ernie Ohlin, Water Resource Manager; Dan McManus of DWR and Campbell Ingram and Craig Stevens of Calfed.

1. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bill Borrer at 8:30 a.m.
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes will be presented at the July 2003 meeting for approval.
3. PUBLIC COMMENT: None
4. CLAIMS: Motion by Director Turner and second by Director Russell to accept the claims of \$18,305.42.
5. RECOGNITION OF GARY PLUNKETT - RETIRING PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR: Ernie Ohlin thanked Director Plunkett for his continued support of staff efforts and presented him with a plaque.
6. DEER CREEK WATER EXCHANGE - UPDATE: Ernie stated that in April of 2003, the Board of Supervisors approved a permit to the Deer Creek Irrigation District working cooperatively with Northern District Department of Water Resources (DWR) on a pilot project testing effects of pumping groundwater for irrigation purposes in lieu of diverting streamflow from Deer Creek.

Dan McManus of DWR, presented information (Exhibit A) to the Directors which documented progress to date on the test pumping which began May 23, 2003. Included were:

Date and Time with Meter Readings
Weekly Electrical Conductivity Measurements
Sample Results
Water Quality Objectives & Criteria
Key Well Information
Sacramento Valley Groundwater Basin - Tehama County

Dan McManus added that observation for another 30-days will be done weekly, every other week and monthly. Reports will continue to the Director's. They anticipated the testing to continue until approximately late August.

7. CALFED ENVIRONMENTAL WATER PROGRAM (EWP): Ernie Ohlin introduced Campbell Ingram and Craig Stevens of Calfed. The EWP is an element of the Calfed Ecosystem Restoration Program intended to acquire water from willing sellers on streams and tributaries to the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta. In Tehama County, streams identified are Deer, Mill, Antelope and Battle Creek. Calfed and their process has identified these areas for fishery enhancement and water acquisition.

Campbell Ingram, Program Manager, distributed information (Exhibit B) for review. Implementation of the program has begun by conducting outreach in the selected watersheds explaining how the program works. The handout covered the following:

Purpose is to acquire water on streams tributary to the Sacramento and San Joaquin river systems to assist in carrying out the flow related goals of the Calfed Ecosystem Restoration Program, with the objectives of; improving salmon spawning and juvenile survival; restore critical instream and channel-forming flows; provide flows and habitat conditions for fish protection and recovery.

The EWP is a component of the Ecosystem Restoration Program (ERP) which is a component of the larger Calfed Program. Currently with the passing of the Bay-Delta Authority Act (made Calfed a State Organization) there are three implementing agencies for the ERP: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service; NOAA Fisheries; and California Department of Fish and Game.

Guiding Principles for Pilot Water Acquisitions: Acquisitions conducted on a willing seller basis; Proposals developed by local interests and the ERP Implementing Agencies; Acquisitions designed to test hypotheses regarding water management in a manner that facilitates learning through adaptive management, including appropriate monitoring, and

will be peer reviewed by an external scientific panel prior to approval.

Mr. Ingram continued with topics such as: Stream prioritization; acquisition processes; proposal preparation teams; concept proposals; preparing full proposals; review, select and fund projects; coordination with related programs. The program continues with outreach in Tier 1 watersheds, formation of local teams and the developing of conceptual proposals.

Director Borrer questioned who is responsible for assessing third-party impacts and Mr. Ingram answered that another guiding principle for the program listed is there will be no third-party impacts. The program cannot succeed if there were impacts such as this. The responsibility resides collectively with the corps team as well as the local team working together identifying which flows would be beneficial and whether or not the water is available in the system.

Ernie Ohlin questioned how this program differed from the Orange Cove Irrigation District Project. Mr. Ingram answered that it differs in process more than anything else. People saw an opportunity and tried to capitalize on that opportunity.

Director McIver questioned that with the formation of a new State agency at this time, what were the impediments for current agencies and organizations and any idea of costs involved. Mr. Ingram said he was really not sure on that issue.

Roger Sherrill asked when the public would be involved in the actual proposals. Mr. Ingram said the public would be invited to public meetings in July to discuss the program. Members of the public would be invited to have active participation in the development of those proposals through the process. When at the conceptual review process, there will be a public workshop to air what is being proposed.

8. TEHAMA COUNTY WATER INVENTORY/ANALYSIS & SMALL WATER SYSTEM INVENTORY GRANT PROJECTS UPDATE: Ernie Ohlin announced the Water Inventory Analysis working draft is ready and being reviewed by the TAC. The Small Water System Inventory for drought preparedness is in the early stages. Staff presented documents for the Directors' review.
9. NORTHERN CALIFORNIA WATER ASSOCIATION - MONTH IN REVIEW: Director Borrer added that there is information on the Ag Waiver issue for review by the Board which is of importance.
10. ADJOURN: With no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:36 A.M.